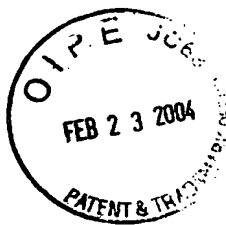
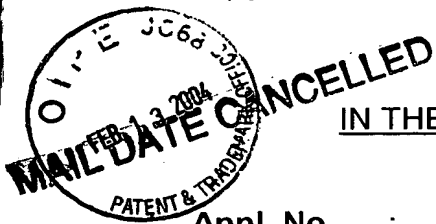


Appl. No. 09/09/527,924  
Amdt. Dated February 20, 2004  
Reply to Office action of November 21, 2003



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PATENT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/527,924  
Applicant : Nozomi Miura  
Filed : March 17, 2000  
TC/AU : 2685  
Examiner: : Quochien B. Vuong  
Docket No. : 32429  
Customer No.: 116

Confirmation No. :3861

111 Resp  
3/1/04  
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Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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RESPONSE "B"

Sir:

In response to the Office action of November 21, 2003, paper no. 9, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 9 of this paper.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop AF, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated below.

Robert F. Bodi  
Name of Attorney for Applicant(s)

02-20-2004  
Date

Signature of Attorney